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# SATUN

## PROVINCE



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## Satun Province

**S**atun is one of Thailand's southern province situated on the Straits Malacca in the Indian Ocean and bordering Malaysia. It is 973 kilometers south of Bangkok. It has an area of 2,478.98 square kilometers. There are also approximately 105 islands in Satun. It has a coast line of 144.80 kilometers.

Before the year of 2436 in the Buddhist Era or 1893 in the year of the Lord, Satun was a subdistrict of Muang Sai Buri and was called "Mu Kem Stoy" meaning the subdistrict of Krathon, or Santol trees. Satun had a history related to Muang Sai Buri until 2452 B.E. (1909 A.D.) when the Thai government gave Muang Sai Buri, Kelantan, Trengganu and Perlis to Britain in exchange for the right of Thai people to go to Thai courts. At that time, Satun was separated from Monthon Sai Buri or the administrative precinct of Sai Buri and was attached to Monthon Phuket and later in 2468 B.E. (1925 A.D.) it became dependency of Nakorn Sri Thammarat and remained so until 2475 B.E. (1932 A.D.) when the Thai government became democratic, and Muang Satun was upgraded to provincial status called "Changwat Satun" or "The Province of Satun"

Satun province consists of 5 Amphur or districts and one subdistrict. The 5 Amphur are Amphur Muang Satun, Amphur La-ngu, Amphur Thoong Wah, Amphur Khuan Kalong, and Amphur Khuang Done. The subdistrict is King Amphur Thaphae. The social characteristics of Satun province are different from other provinces because it is a bi-culture society; Thai and Muslim culture mingle with each other harmoniously. In addition, Satun also has the culture of a minority group called Chao Lay or Thai Mai which mean new Thais. This group of people has settled on the Lee Pay Island, Tambol Khao Sarai (Tambol is a subdivision of an Amphur), Amphur Maung Satun, and on the Pulon Island. The people

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on both islands, have their own unique traditions and culture.

## **Tourist Attractions in the Amphur Muang Area**

**Khao Phaya Wang Public Park** This is a public park the west part of the Satun municipality area. In the park, there is a small limestone hill, and a cave with a stream passing by making it suitable for recreation.

**Laem Tan Yong Bo and Hat Sai Yao (Tan Yong Bo Penninsular and Yao Beach)** They are situated on Satun Bay and can be reached by taking a boat from Ko Nok Customs Port or from behind Talad Sod Satun (Satun Fresh Food Market). The trip takes about one hour. Yao beach can also be reached by car; it is 7 kilometers from the Jeh Bilang intersection. Laem Tan Yong Bo stretches out into the Andaman sea. On Laem Tan Yong Bo, there is a fisherman's village, and a beautiful white beach lined with thousands of coconut trees.

## **Tourist Attractions in Amphur Khuan Done**

**Du Son Irrigation Dam** This dam is located in Village No. 5, Tambol Du son, Amphur Khuan Done about 22 kilometers from the town of Satun on Highway No. 406 from Satun to Hat Yai.

Du Son Irrigation Dam is a reservoir surrounded by green trees and overhanging rocks suitable for adventurous tourists to climb up to take a look at the beautiful surrounding view and scenery.

**Thalay Ban National Park** This area is mainly covered with deciduous pine trees which are not commonly found in southern Thailand. There are also other kinds of vegetation which grow in abundance in the area making it a suitable habitat for many kinds of wildlife.

## Tourist Attractions in the Thalay Ban National Park

**Bung Thalay Ban or Thalay Ban Lake** This is a fresh water crater lake with an area of 200 Rai. Thick vegetation grows around the lake which is called "Ton Bakong" by the villagers living in that area, making the natural atmosphere even more beautiful. There is also a "Sala Tha Nam" or a building on the lake for tourists to enjoy the gorgeous nature of the Thalay Ban close-up.

It is assumed that the word "Thalay Ban" is derived from the Malay word "Lert Rerban" which means "Thalay Yoop" meaning "The Collapsed Sea". There is a tale that about 300 years ago, that area had two mountains running parallel to each other: "Phukhao Jeen" and "Phukhao Mod Daeng". The land was very rich and very suitable for cultivation. The people living in that area earned their living by growing crops. Later on, there was a violent earthquake which lasted for months causing the land to gradually collapse leaving a big water basin behind.

**Namtok Ya Roy or Ya Roy Waterfall** This waterfall is 6 kilometers from Samyaek or a three-road junction which is 14 kilometers from the waterfall entrance which is 300 meters away from the waterfall. This beautiful waterfall has several levels and between each level, there is a natural pool suitable for relaxing or swimming.

**Tham Tone Din or Tone Din Cave** This cave is on the road from Khuan Sataw to Wang Prajan Road. The cave is about 20 kilometers from Samyaek Khuan Sataw or Khuan Sataw junction, which is a three-road junction. There are beautiful stalactites and stalagmites in the cave and there is also a stream passing through the cave.

**Thoong Wang Pra** Thoong Wang Pra is an open mixed grass field located in the valley of Khao Wang Pra on the east and Khao Wang Phaniat on the west. There is a trail on the hillside through a

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beautiful open grass field. This area is full of many kinds of birds making it very attractive to nature lovers to visit.

**Tham Lod Pu Yu or Pu Yu Cave** This is on Khao Ka Young or Ka Young Mountain which is south of Thalay Ban National Park. On the ceiling of the cave, there are beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. Nearby, there are mangroves on both of its sides.

A trip to Tham Lod Pu Yu can be made by taking a boat from Tam Malang Port. The trip takes approximately one hour or two hour for the round trip.

## **Travelling to Thalay Ban**

Thalay Ban National Park is situated in Village No. 11, Tambol Khuan Sataw, Amphur Khuan Done, and about 40 kilometers from Satun town on highway No. 406 (Satun-Hat Yai). At the 19th kilometer milestone, there is a junction with highway No 4184 (Khuan Sataw-Wang Prajan). About 20 kilometers from the intersection on this road is the Thalay Ban National Park.

The National Park can be reached either by bus or taxi from Hat Yai to Samyaek Khuan Sataw, Khuan Sataw three-road junction, which is about 80 kilometers away. From the intersection, there are minibuses (Satun-Samyaek-Dan Wang Prajan or Wang Prajan check point).

### **Facilities at the Park**

There are 13 houses which can accommodate 170 people. The rate is 500-1,000 baht per night for a house. There is an area where tourists can put up their own tents or have a camp fire. There is also a multi-purpose building on the lakeside.

### **Information**

For information contact:

1. National Park Section, Department fo Forestry, Tel. (02) 579-0529 and (02) 579-4842.

2. Thalay Ban National Park Office, Amphur Khuan Done, Satun Province 91160, Tel. (074) 797073

# Tarutao Archipelago National Park

Tarutao Archipelago National Park is the first marine national park in Thailand established in order to conserve all natural environmental conditions for study and recreation.

Its pristine condition means it can still retain to natral beauty, its waterfalls, caves, streams, mountains, grassland, vegetation and wild animals. Besides, there is beautiful coral and other forms of marine life in the vast sea.

"Tarutau" is a national park situated in the southern part of Thailand on the Malacca Straits, in the Andaman Sea, and the Indian Ocean. It is in Amphur Muang, Satun Province and is 40 kilometers from Satun town to the west. Tarutau consists of 51 large and small islands with an area totalling 1,490 square kilometers. There are 7 main islands: Tarutau, Ahdang, Rawee, Lee Pey, Klang, Baduang, and Passy. Tarutau is the biggest.

## Tourist Attractions Around The Tarutau Islands

### Historical Sites

**Ao Talo Udang or Talo Udang Bay** This was a place to which political prisoners were exiled to.

**Ao Talo Wow or Talo Wow Bay** It used to be the site of the Fisheries Unit. Something is still left of the unit can be seen.

### Natural Attractions

**Ao Pan Teh Malacca or Pan Teh Malacca Bay** This bay has a beautiful white beach and the sea is good for swimming.

**Pha Toh Bu or Toh Bu Cliff** This is a point where a beautiful view of Pan Teh Malacca Bay can be seen. Toh Bu Cliff is situated in back of the park's office and there is a trail leading up to the 370 meter-above-sea level cliff.

**Tham Jorakay or Crocodile Cave** This cave is famous for its beauty. It is on the Ao Pan Teh Malacca river and can be reached by boat on the Malacca river.

**Pratu Hin or Stone Gate** It is known as "Soom Pratu Hin" meaning "The Stone Arch." It is on Ko Khai island which is next to Ko Klang, Klang island. Big sea turtles come to lay their eggs here in this area between November and January. "The Stone Arch" is a symbol of Tarutau Archipelago National Park.

**Ko Ahdang or Ahdany Island** This is a world renowned source of coral. Some areas are so shallow that coral can be seen with naked eye from the surface of the sea.

**Ko Hin Ngarm or Beautiful Rocks Island** This island is next to Ko Ahdang. Its beach is covered in smooth, almost round rocks with beautiful patterns.

**Ko Lee Peh or Lee Peh Island** On this island there is a community of Chao Lay. Chao Lay is a group of native people who live near the sea. Their houses are beatifully arranged on the island. They have a lively folk dance called "Rong-ngeng".

## Travelling to Tarutau Archipelago National Park

On highway No. 406 from Hat Yai to Satun, there is a junction of at Chalong, one of the roads, highway No. 4078 goes to Ban Pak Bara.

**Travelling by Bus** There is a bus leaving at 7.05, 11.05 and 14.55 o'clock from Hat Yai Clock Tower in front of The Plaza market where buses stop on their way from Hat Yai bus station to their destinations. The fare is 35 baht per person. Get off at Sam Yaek Chalong which is a three-road junction to catch a Satun to La-ngu bus. From La-ngu there are minibuses to Pak Bara Port.

**Travelling by Taxi** There are taxis from Hat Yai to La-ngu from 6.00 to 17.00 o'clock leaving from



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the area in front of the Post Office on Ratthakarn road.

**Travelling by Air-conditioned Van** There are air-conditioned vans leaving from the area beside the Krung Thai Bank on Niphat Uthit 1 Road every hour from 6.00 to 16.00 o'clock. The fare is 50 baht per person. It takes about about 1 hour and 50 minutes from Hat Yai to Pak Bara. The telephone number of the bus office is 245655.

**The Ferries to Tarutau Island** There are ferries taking tourists from Pak Bara Port everyday during the annual festival "Visit Tarutau" which is from 19 November to 19 May.

#### **Ferry Schedule**

Pak Bara (Deoartyre)	Tarutau (Arrival)
10.30	12.00
15.00	16.30
Tarutau (Departure)	Pak Bara (Arrival)
09.00	10.30
14.00	15.30

The fare is 200 Baht roundtrip.

### **Food and Drink Services**

Tourists can buy food at the park's restaurants both on Ko Tarutau and Ko Ahdang or they can bring their own food.

### **Accommodations**

Inquiry about accommodations and reservation can be made at:

1. Public Relations and Accommodation Services Section, National Park Unit, Department of Forestry, Bangkok, Tel. (02) 5790529 and 5794842.

2. Tarutau Achipelago National Park Office, Tel. (074) 711383 everyday, or at

3. Pak Bara Unit, Tel. (074) 781285 everyday.

Accommodation at Tarutau Island can be classified into bungalows and row-houses:

**Tabag Bungalows** Each bungalow has 2 bedrooms and 2 bath rooms and can accommodate 8 persons. The rate is 800 baht per night or 400 baht per room per night. There are 5 bungalows of this size.

**Taboon Bungalows** Each bungalow has 2 bedrooms and 1 bath room and can accommodate 6 persons. The rate is 600 baht per night.

**Row-houses** At Tarutau, there are 3 row-houses and there are 10 rooms in each row-house. Each room can accommodate 4 persons. The rate is 280 baht per night.

## Paytra Archipelago National Park

"The Paytra Archipelago" is a national park in the Malacca Straits, in the Andaman Sea, and the Indian Ocean. There are 22 islands constituting Paytra archipelago scattered over a wide area in Tambol Sukorn, Amphur Pa-lian, Trang Province; Tambol Khon Khlan, Amphur Thoong Wah, and Tambol Pak Nam, Amphur La-ngu, Satun Province. These 22 islands cover an area of both land and sea of 491.38 square kilometers or 268,987 Rai. Thirty kilometers from the south of the archipelago is the Malaysian border.

"Paytra Archipelago National Park" was established in 1983 and became by the Royal Decree in 1984 the 49th national park of Thailand. There are some important islands such as Ko Leedee, Ko Bulon, Ko Khao Yai, and Ko Paytra. Paytra Archipelago National Park is an area of great natural beauty, such as fertile forests, beautiful seas and mountains, all of which are safe enough for the wildlife, and colourful coral. On Leedee island, a concession to collect swallow's nests has been given. At the ebb of the tide when the sea water is low, there are natural roads linking the islands together. Around the island there are lime coral reefs under water where fishes abound.

### Climate

There are 2 seasons:

1. The Monsoon Season which is from May to October and

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2. Summer which is from November to April.

Tourists can go to the archipelago all the year round.

## Tours Attractions

**1. Service Office** This is the service part of the national park 7 kilometers away from Amphur La-ngu. It is in a big bay which is part of Ao Noon or Noon Bay. There are the park's office, a tourist service center, accommodation and a multi-purpose building.

**2. Lee Dee Island** This is about 5 kilometers from the park's office. Lee Dee serves as the security guard of the park. There are both lodgings and a camp site for tourists who wish to stay overnight in tents.

### Regulations for Accommodation Reservations

1. Reservations can be made at the Central Office at Ao Noon.

2. Definite dates and numbers of persons must be stated.

3. Reservations must be made in person.

4. Reservations must be made in advance.

(The rate for accommodation has not been set.)

## Bulon Archipelago

The Bulon archipelago is in the Paytra Archipelago National Park about 22 kilometers from Pak Bara Port. In the Bulon archipelago, the island which is most outstanding and most interesting for tourists is Ko Bulon Yai or Ko Bu-lon Lay.

Ko Bulon has been named the new pearl of the Andaman. Under the sea, there is an abundance of big and small colourful coral and there are also many beautiful kinds of fish such as Tiger-pattern fish and star fish. This beautiful nature alive under the sea is very attractive for divers who admire natural beauty under the sea.

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Ko Bulon is famed not only for its natural undersea beauty but also for its white beach which is lined with green pine trees contrasting with the clear blue sea. This island is very charming. The way of life of its native people, the Chao Lay, is interesting, together with its natural peace and quiet making it very attractive to tourists who seek tranquility and natural beauty.

## **Travelling to Bulon Archipelago**

The trip from Hat Yai can be made by using the same routes and transportation as to Tarutau. A ferry leaves from Pak Bara Port everyday at 14.00 o'clock and comes back from Ko Bulon at 9.00 o'clock. The round trip fare is 160 baht per person. The trip takes about one and a half hours.

### **Facilities for Tourists**

Tourists can buy food at the two resorts on island.

1. **Mulonay Bungalows** Reservations can be made at the port.

2. **Pan Sand Resort** Reservations can be made at the port or at the Andaman Travel International Co., Ltd. No. 82-84 Wisetkul Road (opposite Queens Hotel), Amphur Muang, Trang Province, Tel. (075) 218035.

The rate for accommodation on Ko Bulon ranges from 100 to 300 baht per house per night.

**Ko Bor Jet Look or Bor Jet Look Island** this island is about 2 kilometers from Pak Bara Port. There are beautiful beaches on the island but the most beautiful one which is full of natural beauty is Hat Ka-sing where there is a fine white sand and different shapes of rocks on its peaceful beach.

The native people of the island are mostly fishermen who lead a simple life and are friendly to every tourist who comes to visit the island.

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## Travelling to Bor Jet Look Island

The trip from Hat Yai can be made using the same routes and the same type of transportation as travelling to Tarutau. From Pak Bara Port, there are ferry boats, owned by villagers who live nearby, to the island every 15 minutes. The fare is 10 baht per person.

### Facilities for Tourists

Tourists can buy food on the island from food shops owned by villagers.

There is only one place for accommodation called Pak Nam Resort where there are 20 houses for tourists to stay.

The rate is 250 per house per night.

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## Annual Frstivities in Satun Provice

**1. Kite Festival** This annual festival lasts for 3 days. There are a lot of kites entering the competition. Not only Satun people but also people from nearby provinces and foreigners are interested in festival.

**2. Visit Tarutau Festival** This annual festival takes place at the beginning of the tourist season in Tarutau Island. There are many kinds of activities in the festivaal such as a Marine-life Exhibition, Chao Lay Cultural Shows, Fishing Competitions, a Tarutau History Exhibition, etc.

## Accommodation List

Name	Address	No. Room	Tel. No.	Rate
Wang Mai Hotel	43 Satun Thanee Rd.	108	711607-8 Fax: 722162	460-540
Satun Thanee Hotel	90 Satun Thanee Rd.	50	711010	100-200
Rien Thong Hotel	124 Samarn Pradit Rd.	25	7110330	100-200
Udom Sook Hotel	201 Hatthakam Suksa Rd.	33	711006	100-200
Thalay Ban	Thalay Ban	13	797073	500-1,000
National Park	National Park			
Tarutau National Park	Tarutau National Park	13	711383	280-800
	Ahdang Island	10	711838	280
Lee Pay Island	Lee Pay Island	55	-	200-500
Bulon Island	Bulon Island	20	-	100-300
Bar Jet Look Island	Bar Jet Look Island	20	-	250





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## FERRY TIME TABLE

### SATUN • LANGKAWI

09.00 AM

13.00 PM

16.00 PM

### LANGKAWI • SATUN

07.30 AM

11.00 AM

14.00 PM

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